

REMARKS

Claims 2-10, 12-14, 15-22, and 24-37 are pending. Claims 2-10, 12-14, 15-22, and 24-37 have been amended and claims 1, 11, 16, and 23 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Reexamination and reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In the February 26, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,466,951 to Birkler ("the Birkler Reference") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,202,068 to Kraay ("the Kraay reference"). The Examiner objected to claims 34-37 on the grounds that they were dependent upon a rejected base claim, but noted that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Examiner also rejected the title of the application, stating that the title was not descriptive. These rejections and objections are respectfully traversed.

The Examiner stated that a new title that was clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed was needed. The title has been amended accordingly.

The Examiner stated that claims 34-37 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims from which they depend. Accordingly, claims 34-37 have been rewritten in independent form and are believed to be allowable. Furthermore, claims 2-10, 12-15, 17-22, and 23-33 have been amended to depend from the rewritten independent claims 34-37, and thus, are also believed to be allowable.

Claims 2-10, and 30 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 37, and thus Applicants request that the rejections of these claims be withdrawn for the same

reasons as for claim 37. Claims 12-15, and 31 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 34, and thus Applicants request that the rejections of these claims be withdrawn for the same reasons as for claim 34. Claims 17-22, and 32 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 35, and thus Applicants request that the rejections of these claims be withdrawn for the same reasons as for claim 35. Claims 24-29, and 33 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 36, and thus Applicants request that the rejections of these claims be withdrawn for the same reasons as for claim 36.

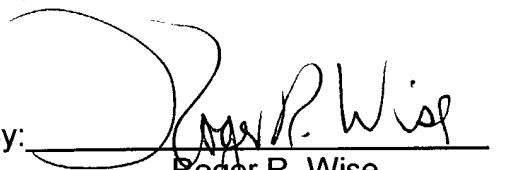
Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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